

Message Text

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47

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 EUR-25 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 IGA-02 AID-20 EB-11 AGR-20 COME-00 INT-08

OMB-01 TRSE-00 RSR-01 /173 W
----- 005754

R 0800 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY BAMAko
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7103
INFO AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

C O N F I D E N T I A L BAMAko 1334

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, ML, LY

SUBJ: LIBYAN SUPPORT FOR MALI

1. PRESIDENT TRAORE TOLD AMBASSADOR THIS MORNING THAT CONTRARY TO SPECULATION HE HAD NOT RECEIVED BUDGETARY ASSISTANCE FROM PRESIDENT QADHAFI FOR MALIAN GOVERNMENT DURING HIS RECENT VISIT TO TRIPOLI. PRESIDENT SAID HE WAS " SATISFIED WITH PRESENT FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS," WHICH IN CONTEXT SEEMED TO REFER TO GROWING FRENCH BUDGETARY SUBSIDY. HE ADDED (NOTE: AS RUMORED) THAT HE HAD ASKED LIBYA TO FINANCE FIRST STUDIES, THEN CONSTRUCTION OF LABIZENGA DAM ON NIGER RIVER NEAR BOUREM BETWEEN GAO AND TIMBUKTU. LIBYA HAD AGREED. PRESIDENT SAID DAM WOULD PROVIDE SOME POWER, BUT WOULD ALSO PROVIDE WATER TO IRRIGATE DRY AREAS NEAR RIVER IN ORDER ASSURE SIXTH REGION OF RELIABLE GRAIN SUPPLY. NAVIGATION WOULD BE PROVIDED BY LOCKS.

2. PRESIDENT TRAORE SAID HE WAS IMPRESSED WITH QADHAFI' S DRIVE BUT PUT OFF BY HIS RELIGIOUS FANATICISM. HE OBSERVED THAT ALTHOUGH LIBYA VERY RICH FROM OIL REVENUES, IT IS LESS DEVELOPED THAN MALI AND OBVIOUSLY HAS LITTLE EXCEPT DEVELOPMENT FUND WITH WHICH IT CAN HELP THIS COUNTRY. DEAL MADE, HE SAID, WHEREBY LIBYA WILL PUT VACANT YUGOSLAVIAN BUILT GAO SLAUGHTERHOUSE INTO CONFIDENTIAL

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WORKING ORDER AND WILL FLY MEAT TO LIBYAN CITIES.

3. COMMENT: THERE ARE STILL STRONG RUMORS THAT LIBYA HAS PLEDGED BUDGETARY ASSISTANCE. IT MAY BE THAT ASSISTANCE WAS

REQUESTED AND QADHAFI REFUSED OR IT MAY BE THAT SEEING WAY
QADHAFI'S THINKING WAS GOING, MALIANS DECIDED NOT TO REQUEST
DIRECT SUBSIDIARY. WE SHOULD KNOW MORE LATER.
BLAKE

CONFIDENTIAL

NMAFVVZCZ

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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30 JUN 2005

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